

# **AN ALTERNATIVE FOR THE DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL**

**FROM THE  
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL  
WATER CAUCUS**



***CALIFORNIA WATER SOLUTIONS NOW***

# **WHAT WE WILL COVER**

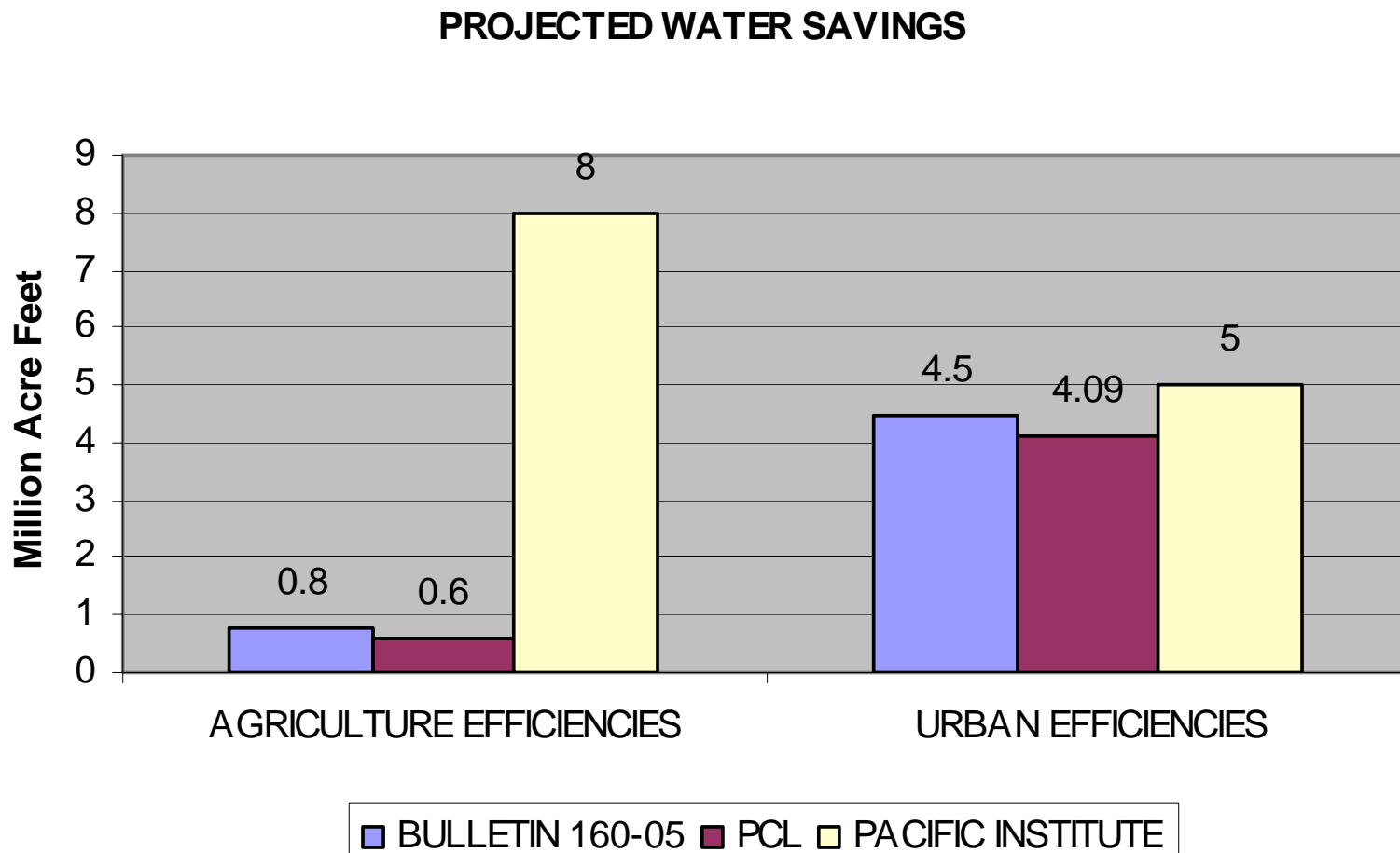
**A BOLD NEW DIRECTION**

**CHANGE OF FOCUS FROM BDCP**

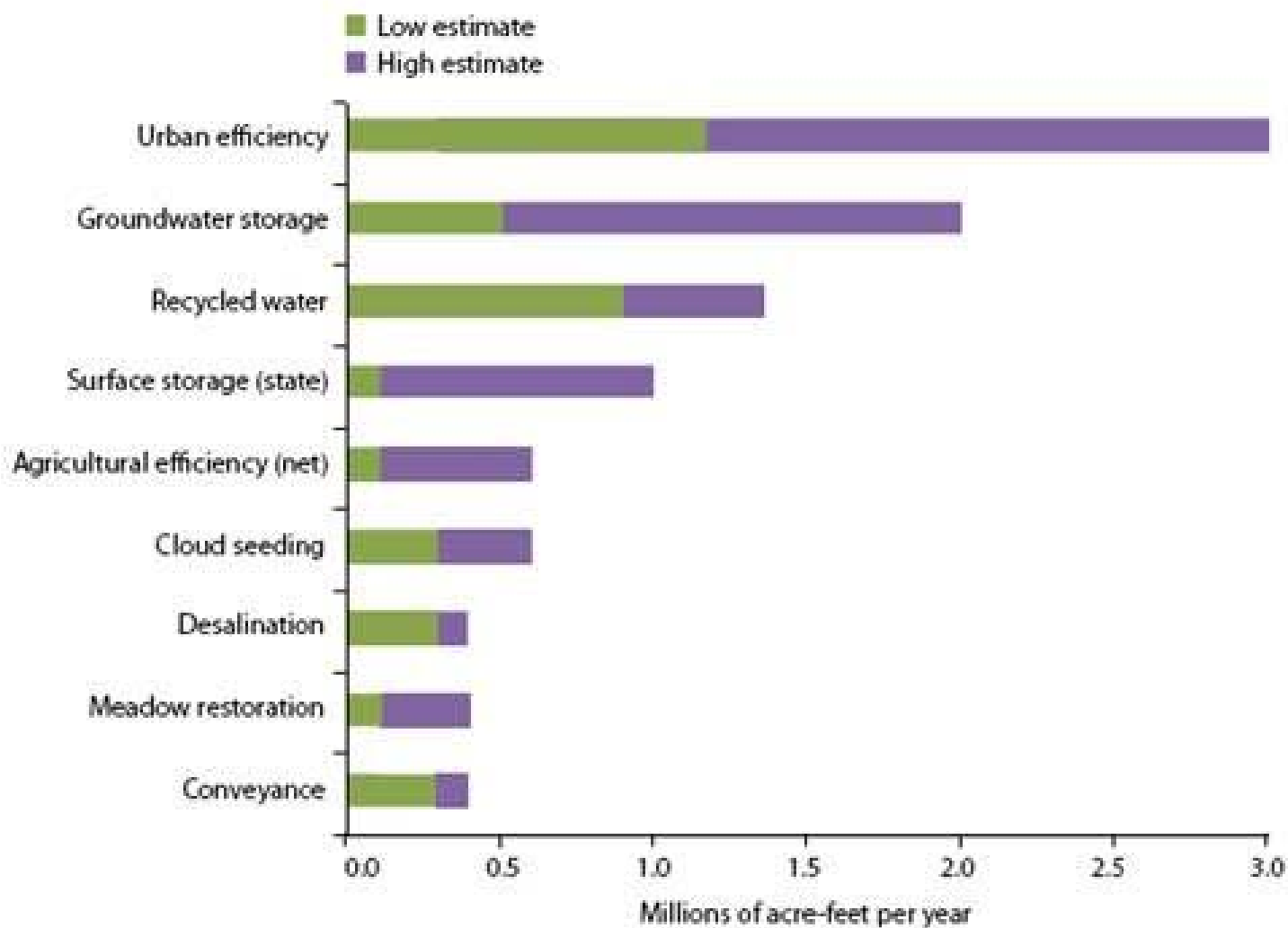
- **REDUCE WATER USE**
- **RETIRE TOXIC FARMLANDS**
- **REDUCE EXPORTS**
- **NO NEW INFRASTRUCTURE**
  - **PUBLIC TRUST BALANCE**
  - **BILLIONS SAVED**

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

# Projected Water Savings from Efficiency Measures



## CHANGING WATER DEMANDS CAN BE MET IN MANY WAYS



SOURCE: Department of Water Resources, Draft California Water Plan Update (Bulletin 160-09), 2009.  
NOTE: Annual production potential from new water sources and conservation by 2030.

# **DRAINAGE IMPAIRED FARMLANDS**

## **CVP AND SWP IRRIGATING 1.3 MILLION ACRES OF IMPAIRED FARMLAND IN SYV**

- USING 3.9 MAF
- GENERATING 4,000 TONS SALT DAILY
  - LESS THAN HALF DRAINS TO SAN JOAQUIN RIVER
- TOXICS CONCENTRATE IN SOIL

## **VIOLATION OF STATE CONSTITUTION**

- WASTE AND UNREASONABLE USE OF WATER

## **RETIREMENT IS MOST RELIABLE AND COST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION**

# **RECOMMENDATIONS - IMPAIRED FARMLANDS**

## **NEED PROCESS TO RETIRE IMPAIRED LANDS**

- QUICK SOLUTION
- SOLAR ENERGY REPLACEMENT

## **REDUCE CONTRACTED AMOUNTS OF WATER**

- RECENT BOR PROPOSAL TO WESTLANDS

## **MITIGATE COMMUNITY IMPACTS**

# **EXPORT REDUCTIONS AND DELTA FLOWS**

## **Recognized risk of high levels of exports**

- Primary cause of decline of Delta and species

## **No scientific basis for supply and demand forecasts**

- Energy model

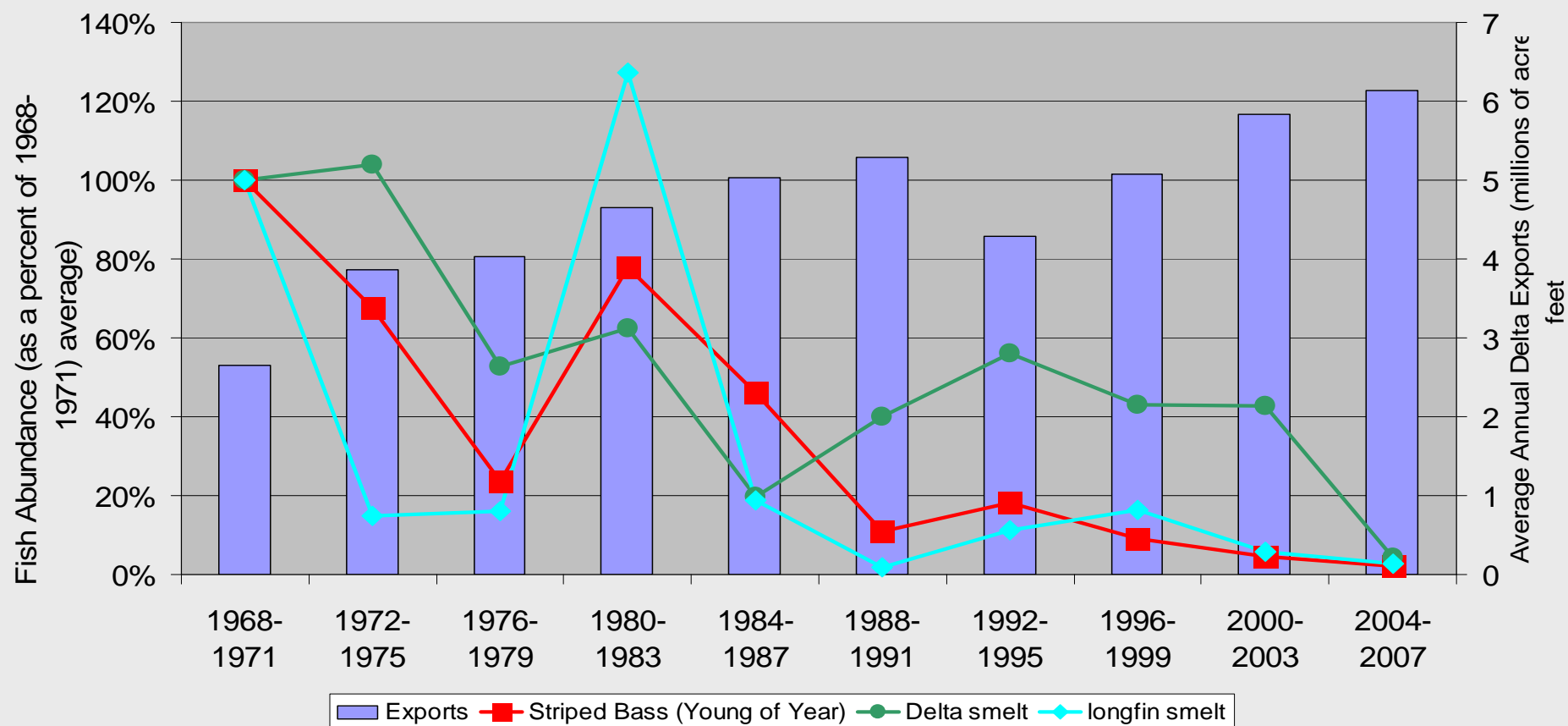
## **Recent SWRCB Flow report**

- 50% reduction to protect public trust resources

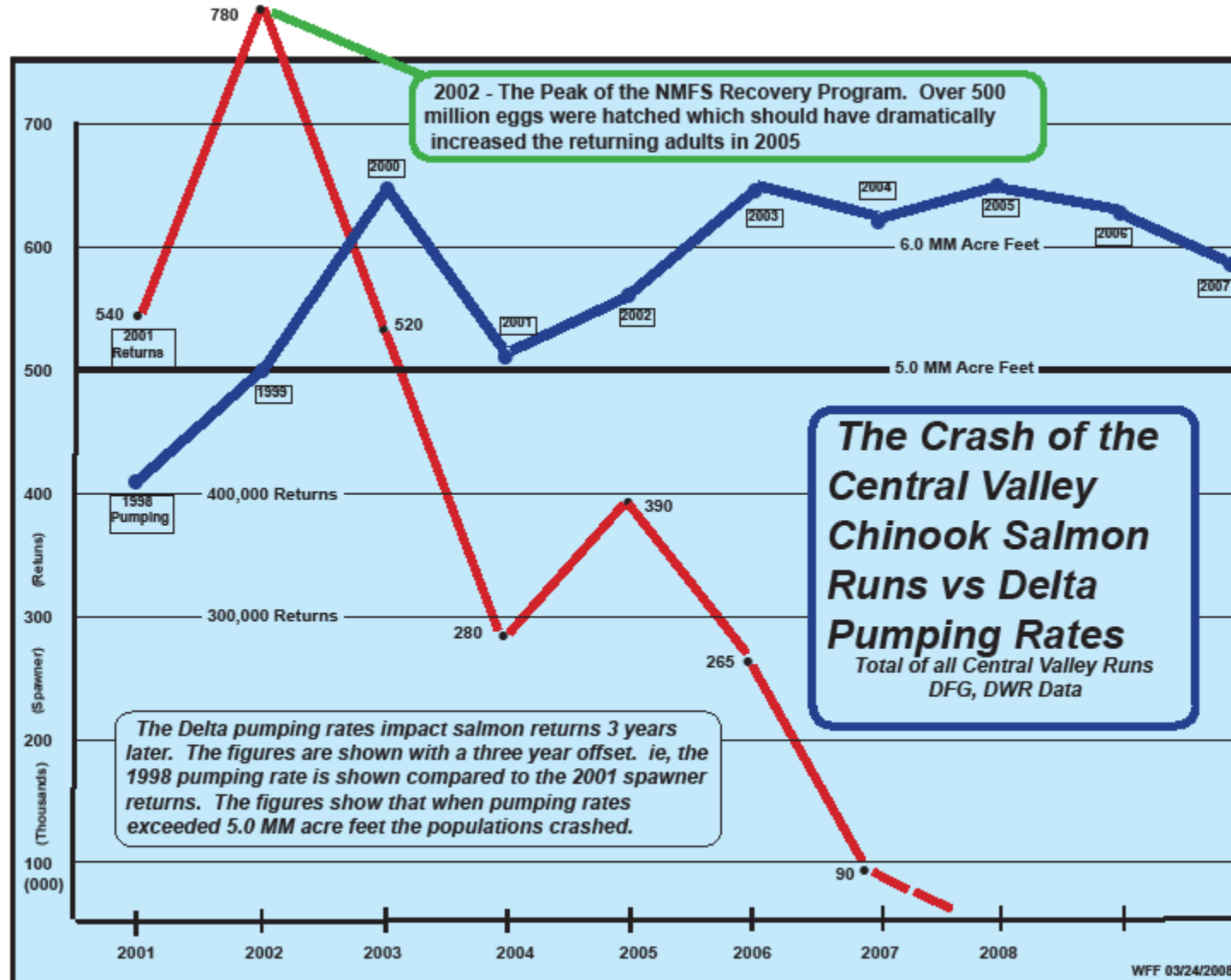
## **EWC report recommendation – 3MAF maximum**

- SWRCB 1992 draft report – 2.65 MAF
- Eliminates reverse flows

## Historic Delta Exports and Estuarine Fish Populations







# MANDATES

THE FOUNDATION – STATE WATER CODE 85023

- REASONABLE USE
- PUBLIC TRUST DOCTRINE

REDUCED RELIANCE ON THE DELTA

- STATE WATER CODE 85021

EXCEEDS STATEWIDE WATER CONSERVATION ACT

- SENATE BILL 7

REQUIRED ALTERNATIVES OF CEQA & NEPA

LEAST ENVIRONMENTALLY DAMAGING PRACTICABLE  
ALTERNATIVE (FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT)

# RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL

## ESTABLISH A “WATER SOLUTIONS WORKGROUP”

- CEQA AND NEPA ALTERNATIVES REQUIREMENT
  - EWC REPORT AS A TEMPLATE
- ESTABLISH WITHIN 30 DAYS
- IDENTIFY ACTIONS MEETING GOALS OF EWC REPORT
- REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL WITHIN 60 DAYS

# SUMMARY

**REALITY** – Delta cannot survive without changed water policy

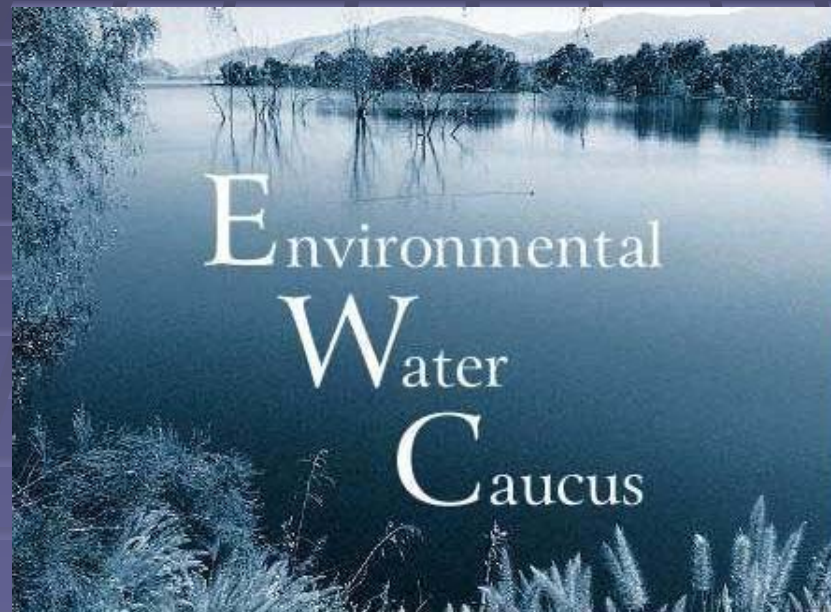
**WHAT WE PROPOSE** – Changing the way we manage water in  
California

**WHAT IT WILL TAKE** – A bold new approach from the Council

**WHAT THE COUNCIL CAN DO** – Begin to embrace the new  
reality and establish workgroup

**WHAT IS MOST CRITICAL** – Resist pressures to continue the  
status quo

# CLOSING THOUGHTS



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